

**R E M A R K S**

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

**THE TITLE**

The title has been amended to more clearly indicate the nature of the invention to which the claims are directed, as required by the Examiner.

**THE CLAIMS**

Claim 1 has been amended to more positively recite the subject matter formerly recited in the preamble, and to more positively recite a correction unit. In addition, claim 1 has been amended to recite an extraction section which extracts a size of the recording member, to clarify that the storage section stores respective correction values for a plurality of sizes of recording member, and to clarify that the selecting section selects from the storage section a correction value corresponding to the extracted size of the recording member.

Claims 21-26, moreover, have been prepared based on the subject matter of (now canceled) claims 2-6 and 8 in better accordance with amended independent claim 1.

Claim 27 has been prepared based on the disclosure in the specification at, for example, page 21, lines 10-14.

And new independent claim 28 has been prepared to recite that the selecting section selects from the storage section a correction value corresponding to the extracted version data of the recording member, along the lines recited in amended independent claim 1 and new claim 26.

No new matter has been added, and it is respectfully requested that the amendments to claim 1 and the addition of claims 21-28 be approved and entered.

#### THE PRIOR ART REJECTION

Claims 1, 3-8 and 12 were rejected under 35 USC 102 or under 35 USC 103 as being anticipated by or obvious in view of USP 5,086,228 ("Kojima"), and claims 2, 9-11 and 13-20 were rejected under 35 USC 103 as being obvious in view of the combination of Kojima with one of USP 5,604,781 ("Suzuki et al") and USP 5,485,500 ("Baba et al"). These rejections, however, are respectfully traversed with respect to the claims as amended hereinabove.

According to the present invention as recited in amended independent claim 1, a plurality of correction values are stored in a storage section such that respective correction values are stored for a plurality of sizes of recording member, and a selecting section selects from the storage section a correction

value corresponding to the extracted size of the recording member from which radiographic image information is detected.

In addition, according to the present invention as recited in new independent claim 28, a plurality of correction values are stored in a storage section such that respective correction values are stored for a plurality of versions of recording members, and a selecting section selects from the storage section a correction value corresponding to the extracted version data of the recording member.

Thus, with the structure of the claimed present invention, for example, it is not necessary to apply a correction value for a large recording member to a small recording member, as in the conventional technique. Instead, with the structure of the claimed present invention, it is possible to apply a more appropriate correction value for the particular size of the recording member. In addition, with the structure of the present invention it is possible to apply a correction value appropriate for a particular version of the recording member.

By contrast, it is respectfully submitted that Kojima merely discloses storing a plurality of correction values corresponding reflecting surfaces of a polygon mirror used to scan the stimuable phosphor sheet with laser light. And it is respectfully pointed out that according to Kojima the size or

version of the recording member is not used to determine the correction value.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Kojima clearly does not disclose, teach or suggest selecting a stored correction value in accordance with the extracted size or version data of the recording member from which radiographic image information is detected, in the manner of the present invention as recited in amended independent claim 1 and new independent claim 28.

In addition, it is respectfully submitted that Suzuki et al and Baba et al also do not disclose, teach or suggest these features of the present invention as recited in amended independent claim 1 and new independent claim 28.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that amended independent claim 1 and new independent claim 28, as well as new claims 21-27 depending from amended independent claim 1, all clearly patentably distinguish over Kojima, Suzuki et al and Baba et al, taken singly or in any combination, under 35 USC 102 as well as under 35 USC 103.

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Entry of this Amendment, allowance of the claims and the passing of this application to issue are respectfully solicited.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,

/Douglas Holtz/

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